LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a media service provider based on static resource information, said method comprising:

identifying a type of service that needs to be performed on an item of content requested by a client device and supplied by a content source before a service result is provided to ~~a~~ said client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session ~~between~~ with said client device ~~and a service location manager,~~ and said type of service is selected from a group of services consisting of processing said item of content and providing an analysis of said item of content;

selecting a service provider of said type of service from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, ~~wherein said selecting a service provider is performed by said service location manager,~~ said selecting of ~~a~~ said service provider of said type of service further based on service session information if said service session information has been received and further based on said identifying said type of service; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider of said type of service, wherein said service provider of said type of service performs said type of service on said item of content if said type of service is needed.

2.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing content to a client device, said system comprising:

a service location manager that ~~selects~~ performs a selection of a service provider from among a plurality of service providers that is capable of performing a needed type of service on an item of content requested by a client device and supplied by a content source ~~from among a plurality of service providers~~, said selection based on static service provider information and static network information, wherein said type of service is selected from a group of services consisting of processing said item of content and providing an analysis of said item of content, said item of content and type of service to be performed on said item of content are identified during a session ~~between~~ with said client device ~~and said service location manager~~, wherein said type of service is identified before a service result is provided to said client device, said service location manager further selecting said service provider of said type of service based on service session information if said service session information has been received.

3.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory device comprising computer executable instructions stored therein for performing a method for selecting a media service provider based on static resource information comprising:

identifying a type of service that needs to be performed on an item of content requested by a client device and supplied by a content source before a service result is provided to ~~a~~ said client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session ~~between~~ with said client device ~~and a service location manager~~ and said type of service is selected from a group of services consisting of processing said item of content and providing an analysis of said item of content;

selecting a service provider <u>of said type of service</u> from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, ~~wherein said selecting a service provider is performed by said service location manager~~, said selecting of ~~a~~ <u>said</u> service provider <u>of said type of service</u> further based on service session information if said service session information has been received <u>and further based on said identifying said type of service</u>; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider <u>of said type of service</u>, wherein said service provider <u>of said type of service</u> performs said type of service on said item of content <u>if said type of service is needed</u>.

4.   (Currently Amended) A computer storage medium having stored thereon computer program codes that when executed by a processor causing a computer to perform operations comprising:

identifying a type of service <u>that needs</u> to be performed on an item of content <u>requested by a client device and supplied by a content source</u> before a service result is provided to ~~a~~ <u>said</u> client device, wherein said item of content is identified during a session ~~between~~ <u>with</u> said client device ~~and a service location manager~~<u>, and said type of service is selected from a group of services consisting of processing said item of content and providing an analysis of said item of content</u>;

selecting a service provider <u>of said type of service</u> from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, ~~wherein said selecting a service provider is performed by said service location manager~~, said selecting of ~~a~~ <u>said</u> service provider <u>of said type of service</u> further based on service session information if said

service session information has been received <u>and further based on said identifying said type of service</u>; and

provilding information for transferring said session to said service provider <u>of said type of service</u>, wherein said service provider <u>of said type of service</u> performs said type of service on said item of content <u>if said type of service is needed</u>.

5.   (Currently Amended) A method of selecting a media service provider for streaming media based on static resource information, said method comprising:

identifying a type of service <u>that needs</u> to be performed on an item of streaming content <u>requested by a client device and supplied by a content source</u> before a service result is provided to ~~a~~ <u>said</u> client device, wherein said item of streaming content is identified during a session ~~between~~ <u>with</u> said client device ~~and a service location manager~~<u>, and said type of service is selected from a group of services consisting of processing said item of content and providing an analysis of said item of content</u>;

selecting a service provider <u>of said type of service</u> from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, ~~wherein said selecting a service provider is performed by said service location manager,~~ said selecting of ~~a~~ <u>said</u> service provider <u>of said type of service</u> further based on service session information if said service session information has been received <u>and further based on said identifying said type of service</u>; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider <u>of said type of service</u>, wherein said service provider <u>of said type of service</u> performs said service on said item of streaming content <u>if said type of service is needed</u>.

6.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by a service location manager.

7.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein said static service provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose hardware.

8.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 7 wherein said special purpose hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

9.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 9 wherein said initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

11.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein said session dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

13.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 12 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

14.   (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 13 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.

15.   (Currently Amended) A system for providing streaming media content to a client device, said system comprising:

a service location manager that ~~selects~~ performs a selection of a service provider from among a plurality of service providers that is capable of performing a needed type of service on an item of content requested by a client device and supplied by a content source ~~from among a plurality of service providers~~, said selection based on static service provider information and static network information, wherein said type of service is selected from a group of services consisting of processing said item of content and providing an analysis of said item of content, said item of content and type of service to be performed on said item of content are identified during a session ~~between~~ with said client device ~~and said service location manager~~, wherein said type of service is ~~said~~ identified before a service result is provided to said client device, said service location manager further selecting said service provider of said type of service based on service session information if said service session information has been received.

16.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by said service manager.

17.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 16 wherein said static service provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose hardware.

18.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 17 wherein said special purpose hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

19.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

20.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 19 initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

21.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 17 wherein said dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

22.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 15 wherein said streaming content is

serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

23.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 22 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

24.   (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 19 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.

25.   (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

a memory device comprising computer executable instructions stored therein for performing a method for selecting a streaming media service provider based on static resource information comprising:

identifying a type of service that needs to be performed on an item of streaming content requested by a client device and supplied by a content source before a service result is provided to a said client device, wherein said item of streaming content is identified during a session between with said client device and a service location manager, and said type of service is selected from a group of services consisting of processing said item of content and providing an analysis of said item of content;

selecting a service provider of said type of service from a plurality of service providers based on static service provider information and static network information, wherein said selecting a service provider is performed by said service location manager, said selecting of a said service provider of said type of service further based on service session information if said

service session information has been received <u>and further based on said identifying said type of service</u>; and

     providing information for transferring said session to said service provider <u>of said type of service</u>, wherein said service provider <u>of said type of service</u> performs said type of service on said item of streaming content <u>if said type of service is needed</u>.

     26.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 25 wherein said static service provider and network information is accessible by a service location manager.

     27.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 26 wherein said static service provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose hardware.

     28.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 27 wherein said special purpose hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

     29.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 25 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

     30.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said initiation

and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

31.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 27 wherein said session dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

32.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

33.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 32 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

34.   (Previously Presented) The computer system of Claim 29 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.

35.   (Currently Amended) A computer storage medium having stored thereon computer program codes that when executed by a processor causing a computer to perform operations comprising:

identifying a type of service that needs to be performed on an item of streaming content requested by a client device and supplied by a content source before a service result is provided to a said client device, wherein said item of streaming content is identified during a session between with said client device and a service location manager, and said type of service is

selected from a group of services consisting of processing said item of content and providing an

analysis of said item of content;

selecting a service provider of said type of service from a plurality of service providers

based on static service provider information and static network information, ~~wherein said~~

~~selecting a service provider is performed by said service location manager,~~ said selecting of ~~a~~

said service provider of said type of service further based on service session information if said

service session information has been received and further based on said identifying said type of

service; and

providing information for transferring said session to said service provider of said type of

service, wherein said service provider of said type of service performs said type of service on

said item of streaming content if said type of service is needed.

36.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said static service

provider and network information is accessible by a service location manager.

37.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 36 wherein said static service

provider and network information comprises information concerning computational and memory

resources, connectivity and expected bandwidth and latency between servers, client and content

addresses, session dispatch history, network proximity and the identity of special purpose

hardware.

38.   (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 37 wherein said special purpose

hardware comprises encryption and compression hardware.

39. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said service session information comprises service session initiation and termination information.

40. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 39 wherein said initiation and termination information provides information regarding the computational resources used in previous sessions.

41. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 36 wherein said session dispatch history comprises information concerning content length.

42. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 35 wherein said streaming content is serviced and delivered to a client device as it is received.

43. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 42 wherein non streamed content is generated from said streaming content by said service provider.

44. (Previously Presented) The medium of Claim 43 wherein said streaming content is serviced by said service provider and delivered to a client device as a non streamed file.